

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 14 are amended to remove the term “identified” topic because the topic is derived and to correct a grammatical error in claim 1. These amendments are not made for patentability and do not narrow the scope of the claims.

Specification Amendments

Applicants have amended the specification and requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the specification.

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-11, 14-16, 18, 20-23 and 25 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner rejects claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-11, 14-16, 18, 20-23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Maybury et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,961,954) (“Maybury et al.”). Applicants traverse this rejection and will provide details regarding a number of limitations recited in the claims that are not taught by Maybury et al.

We first turn to claim 1. This claim recites identifying at least one target speaker using the audio and visual components. This feature is not taught by Maybury et al. The Office Action cites the speaker change detection unit 116 that identifies a speaker change event and also cites the framer classification unit 112 in column 13, lines 27 – 39. However, Applicants respectfully submit that these two features (116 and 112) of Maybury et al. do not perform the step of identifying at least one target speaker using the audio and visual components. The speaker change detection 116 only identifies when a speaker changes and is only based on the audio signal. The frame classification unit 112 does not identify any speaker at all but is used to determine if one or two anchors are visible in a frame. This is used for “locating story segment boundaries”. Col. 13, line 39. Because the frame classification unit 112 clearly is not used at all for identifying a target speaker and because the speaker change detection unit also fails to teach

identifying a target speaker, Applicants respectfully submit that this limitation of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by Maybury et al. For this reason, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable and in condition for allowance.

Other reasons exist for the patentability of claim 1. This claim also recites deriving a topic for each of the semantically coherent text blocks based on a set of topic category models. This feature is also not taught in the reference. The Office Action equates the key frame selected from a story segment to identify a speaker and a topic (col. 17, lines 38-44) as the same feature of this claim but that cannot be so. In column 17, Maybury et al. teach that to create a summary, "a key frame is selected from the story segment." Algorithms may be employed on the screen that identify the speaker and/or topic. Contrast Maybury et al.'s key frames or visual captions with claim 1 that recites deriving a topic for each of the semantically coherent text blocks based on a set of topic category models. There is no teaching or suggestion in Maybury et al. of deriving the topic from semantically coherent block. Furthermore, Maybury et al. fail to teach anything regarding deriving a topic based on a set of topic category models (a limitation the Office Action fails to even mention).

Finally, the last step of claim 1 recites generating a multimedia description based on the identified target speaker, the text blocks, the topic and the generated summary. The Office Action previously equated the derived topic as the key frames of column 17 but now equates the topic as the "Clinton White House" shown in FIG. The key frame in that box where the "Clinton White House" text is found would be the image that is selected as the key frame as identified in column 17. The "Clinton White House" is explained to be one of the three most frequent named entity tags. Col. 17, lines 5 – 8. Thus, the phrase "Clinton White House" is not a topic as derived in claim 1 but is taught is an entity tag that is derived by the entity tagging tool 128 that detects such tags in closed captioning text. Col. 10, lines 60 – 64.

Based on the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable and in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 2 – 13 are patentable as well.

Independent claim 14 is patentable for the same reasons as claim 1 as well as its dependent claims 15 – 24. Claim 25 is patentable in that it incorporates claim 1.

Rejection of Claims 4, 7, 17 and 19 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 4, 7, 17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maybury et al. in view of Ahmad et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,507) (“Ahmad et al.”). These claims are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Applicants do not concede that it is appropriate to combine these references under an obviousness analysis.

Rejection of Claims 12, 13 and 24 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 12, 13 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maybury et al. in view of Wrench, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,837,830) (“Wrench, Jr. et al.”). These claims are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Applicants do not concede that it is appropriate to combine these references under an obviousness analysis.

Double-Patenting Rejections

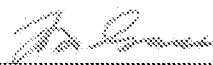
The Office Action rejects claims 1, 5, 13 and 14 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8 of co-pending Patent No. 6,714,909. The enclosed Terminal Disclaimer addresses the double patenting rejection. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections and objections, Applicant respectfully submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge or credit the **Isaacson, Irving, Stelacone & Prass, Account No. 502960** for any deficiency or overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:  _____

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